

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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*****For Immediate Release*****

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Centralia Police Officer Douglas Lee selected to be the newest member of the Washington State Patrol Multi-Agency Missing and Exploited Children Task Force (MECTF).

Centralia Police Officer Douglas Lee has been selected to be the newest member of the Washington State Patrol Multi-Agency Missing and Exploited Children Task Force (MECTF). Officer Lee, who will serve a two-year term as a detective in MECTF, will assume his new duties on May 2, 2005. Officer Lee will replace Detective Char Pesznecker, who will be returning to Lacey Police Department after five years of exemplary service with the task force.

Officer Lee was selected for this specialty assignment after participating in a competitive selection process that included written support from the sponsoring agency, command ratings, resume review, and an oral interview.

Centralia Police Chief Robert Berg commented, "On Behalf of the Centralia Police Department, I greatly appreciate the opportunity for one of our officers to participate in this task force. It will benefit the task force given Officer Lee's experience, it will benefit Doug in his continued development as a police officer, and most importantly it will benefit the public we serve."

Officer Lee began his law enforcement career in 1989 when he was hired as a police officer with the city of Centralia. He has served in many functions as a police officer including narcotics detective, DARE officer, SWAT team member, marine patrol as well as being a member of the Lewis County clandestine laboratory team. Captain Mark Couey, Commander of the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Investigative Assistance Division stated, "I am very excited to have Officer Lee on our MECTF team. Officer Lee's previous training, experience, and proven investigative skills will be an outstanding addition to the task force."

The focus of the task force is to assist law enforcement, state and federal agencies and custodial parents or legal guardians by conducting investigations on missing, abducted and exploited children. The task force is currently represented with detectives from the Lacey Police Department, Port Orchard Police Department, and Washington State Patrol. Further information on the services available through the task force can be obtained from Sergeant John Didion, Task Force Supervisor, at 360-753-0315 ext. 105.

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